



Assessment Task for Junior Cycle English

Contents

Assessment Task for English	4
Completing the task over two class periods	5
Class period 1:	5
Stimulus and discussion: <i>approx. 15 minutes</i>	5
Reflection and preparation: <i>approx. 25 minutes</i>	5
Class period 2: (<i>next class period you have with this group</i>)	5
Writing: approx. 35 minutes	5
Submission: approx. 5 minutes	6
What do I need to do before and during the Assessment Task?	6

Assessment Task for English

The Assessment Task, as outlined below, is based on the principal objective of The Collection of the Student's Texts, which offers students a chance to celebrate their achievements as creators of texts by compiling a collection of their texts in a variety of genres. The knowledge and skills developed by students during this Classroom-Based Assessment emerge from their growing awareness of the process of writing.

(A)

1. List the two texts from your collection that you consider to be your best and identify the genre of each.
2. Select an extract [e.g. paragraph / passage / verse] from one text in your Collection of Texts. Copy the extract into the answer booklet.

Answer either 3 **or** 4

3. Explain how two features of the extract you have chosen are typical of its genre.

OR

4. Identify a change that you made in the course of writing this text that you think improved it and explain how it improved the text.

(B)

Thinking about the process of writing/compiling your Collection of Texts, write a short paragraph about each of **two** of the following:

- a) How the things I read helped me to be a better writer [R6, R8, W6]
- b) How I worked with classmates as part of developing my writing skills [O1, W2]
- c) How a specific piece of feedback was useful to me [W1, W3, W6]
- d) How I hope/would like to use my writing skills in the future [R2, W9]

In your responses, you are encouraged to refer to specific texts you have written.

Note: the writing prompts at (B) above relate to the specified learning outcomes for the collection of texts, as indicated. There may be some variation in these prompts from year to year.

Completing the task over two class periods

Class period 1 Stimulus/discussion/reflection

Class period 2 Writing (class period 2)

Class period 1:

Stimulus and discussion: *approx. 15 minutes*

- Students read/watch/listen to and then discuss a piece of stimulus material from the options provided on the NCCA website.
- Discussion centres on the process of creating texts and how the stimulus mirrors and/or diverges from students' personal experiences of compiling their collection of texts. Discussion can happen in pairs, small groups and/or as a whole class.

Reflection and preparation: *approx. 25 minutes*

- Students read the questions in the booklet and think about how they might respond.
- Students may wish to re-read their two texts, their reflection notes and any previous draft material relating to their texts. This will help them to decide which aspects of their writing and their experience of compiling their collection they'll draw upon to answer the questions asked.

Class period 2: *(next class period you have with this group)*

Writing: *approx. 35 minutes*

- Students respond in writing to the questions asked in the SEC assessment task booklet.
- As before, students have two texts they've written, their reflection notes and any previous draft material relating to these texts with them, to refer to, examine and quote from.

Submission: approx. 5 minutes

- Students label their answer booklets clearly, place them in the envelope provided and the teacher follows established school procedures for submitting student materials to the SEC.

What do I need to do before and during the Assessment Task?

Before:

- Ensure students have the two texts (from the Collection) they submitted to you for assessment in front of them as they complete the Assessment Task.
- Student reflection notes and any draft material relating to these two texts will also help them to complete the task – remind students to have this with them.
- Pre-select one piece of stimulus material from the NCCA website, one you feel most closely reflects your students' experience in compiling their collection of texts.

During: Class 1

- Show students the stimulus material. Allow time for discussion.
- Give students the assessment task booklets and time to think.

During: Class 2

- Supervise as students write their answers into the booklet.
- Ensure all clearly labelled booklets are placed in the envelope provided and then follow established school procedures for submitting material to the SEC.

Note: If your students are completing the Assessment Task during a double class, the same steps outlined above apply but are completed back to back during the double class.

